Rt. 12, Frederick, Md. 21701
5/28/76

Senator Frank Church
Select Intelligence Committee
U.S.Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Church,

A form letter in response to mine strikes me as particularly inappropriate. From others in contact with it I know that it simply isn't true that "we have [no] staff or facilities to respond."

In summary my request was for what you have not published dealing with mail interceptions and whether or not you have any reference to me in the lists. I told you what is a fact, that my mail was intercepted. Because it was mail to Europe it seems apparent that it was CIA, but your committee looked into other agencies, too. Your committee has released some of this material and the names of some writers whose mail was interfered with.

From my own experience working for the Senate in the 1930s I do know that committees obtain information they do not publish and do not have to keep secret.

In its wisdom the Senate has seen fit to enact a "Freedom of Information" law for all the government except the Congress.

It does seem to me that the Senate and individual Senators should practise more than their preaching - their enactment.

If these agencies had complied with the law quite obviously I'd have no need to ask you. But they have not. My first request to the FBI was in 1969, to the CIA in 1971. There has been no response to my last request to the FBI of more than seven months ago. The CIA's time to respond to my appeal expired more than five months ago. I will, when I can, be filing under FOIA and PA, in federal district court.

It also seems to me that the supposed purposes of your committee would be advanced by what I might be able to do in court and thus there is added reason for a meaningful rather than a non-responsive response.

When your staff acts this way in your name it does make it look as though you went into this investigation to forward your political career rather than make the fullest possible exposure. I'm sorry. I had presumed genuineness on your part and that of your committee and I did take time to try to be of help to it.

Regretfully,

Harold Weisberg